

Appl. No. 09/927,743

provide digital compressed signals that are coupled to a digital to analog formatter where they are formatted into an NTSC, PAL, or SECAM compatible analog signal. The active video portion of the signal uses a multilevel pulse amplitude coded signal to carry the digital compressed signal. The converted analog signal can then be stored or transmitted using existing NTSC, PAL, or SECAM standards and equipment.

In the specification:

Delete the paragraph starting on page 15 and ending on page 16 of the specification and replace with the following:

Fig. 3 shows an alternate encoder embodiment of the invention. A digital video signal 1a is received and coupled to a video compression circuitry 3 where it is compressed to provide a compressed video signal 5a. Optionally, a multiple channel digital audio signal 2a associated with the HDTV video signal 1a is received and coupled to an audio compression circuitry 4 to provide a compressed audio signal 6a. The video compression circuitry 3 and the audio compression circuitry 4 being the same as described with respect to Figure 1. The compressed video signal 5a and, if utilized, the compressed audio signal 6a are coupled to a digital combiner 12 which operates to provide a digital combined compressed audio and video signal 13 which is coupled to digital to analog formatter 7, corresponding in function to the digital to analog formatter 7 of Fig. 1. In this fashion the combined compressed digital signal 13 is converted to a suitable analog waveform and combined with standard sync and blanking waveforms to provide compatible analog signal 8a. It may be noted that while the preferred embodiment of the invention utilizes a single compatible analog signal 8a, there may be applications for the invention where multiple signals would be desirable. As one